



Warren Wilson
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

Annual Report - February 9, 2025

FROM THE TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

“Surely the Lord is in this place” (Genesis 28:16a)



A year ago, I joined together with you as your second Transitional Pastor, following the first months after Hurricane Helene, and as you were beginning to plan your 100th Anniversary Celebration. It (2025) was a whirlwind of a year with lots of baby steps, dance moves, wandering, and leaps along our journey together. As I write this, it is clear my time with you will end soon, and I will remember 2025 as a vibrant year of growth against a backdrop of difficult times in our community and our country. I am stronger and more resilient because of you, and I hope the same is true for each of you and for Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church.

In this Annual Report, you will find information about 2025 from elders and leaders of WWPC. They are information based, but what is behind the information are stories of those who participated in the events and activities described, the ways people served and were served.

You will find stories of the ways we worshiped together, played together, and shared the love of Christ with the world. I hope that you will find pieces of particular interest, and either give thanks for the way the Spirit is moving in our midst, or seek out more information about how you might be involved in the future.

Many thanks to Sally Broughton (Clerk of Session and much more), John Bishop (Star of the Communications Committee), and Andrew Tripp (Church Administrator) for their work in pulling all the pieces together, editing, and producing this report.

Peace, Laurie

2025 - A Year of Gratitude

Over the last sixteen months, this community has literally weathered a storm. The experiences of 2025 leave us thankful for many things. In particular, the session wishes to acknowledge:

- We are grateful for the leadership offered by our dynamic transitional pastor, Laurie Furr-Vancini. She brought passion, inclusion and deep meaning to our worship. She guided us through the business-as-usual of the church with wisdom and creativity. She fostered relationships with the college, finalizing the dormant Church College Covenant. With confidence and encouragement, she helped us chart the unfamiliar path of seeking a new minister. She's been a God-send.
- We are grateful to our Director of Music, Ted Stewart, who uplifted us with his loving assurance that music and singing ARE worship, that God is praised in every service, and joy is imbued in Christian life. We relished the expert performances made possible by his connections in the community. Ted's faithfulness blesses us all.
- We are grateful to Andrew Tripp, who continued to own his role as Grand Central of Church Administration. He masterfully represents us in our dealings with the college and the wider community. He keeps track of schedules and details, catching the ones we miss with beautiful grace and humor. His steady presence is a comfort to all who call or come by the office.
- We're also grateful to our treasurers, Leslie Sayyar and Brent Roberts, who collect and disburse our revenue. Though not staff members, they spend a lot of time in our offices, and we give thanks for their generous friendship, and depend heavily on their diligent record keeping!
- We give thanks for our bookkeeper, the efficient and indispensable Barbara Escalante, who keeps this church on the rails and moving forward with grace and equanimity. She's a joy to be around.
- We so appreciate the behind-the-scenes work of our student crew: Isabella Love, Eloise Hill, and Olivia Crescitelli. Olivia was graduated in May, after lending us her talents for three years!
- Though most of us never see her, we deeply appreciate that Elda Pineda keeps all our facilities clean and ready for our work and worship.
- And speaking of facilities, the silver lining of a hurricane is a new roof, new flooring, and new carpeting.
- We are grateful to our presbytery for grants that allowed us to help our neighbors, to refurbish the youth room, and to engage with students.

<Continued on Page 2>

2025 - A Year of Gratitude - continued

▪ It's been a year of anticipation and vitality; the success of our stewardship season bears that out—which brings us to the members and friends of Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church. None of this would be possible without you. Thank you for your faithfulness in a season of transition: for your prayers, for your participation, for your joyful anticipation of all that is to come. Together we say, Thank you, God; and may we bless your name in 2026.

SESSION

The work of the session remains pretty much the same from year to year. Your Session has oversight for the work of all your Ministry Teams, so the details of our congregation's initiatives can be found in the team reports. At our stated meetings each month we review the discussions from, proposals by, and requests from each team; and encourage, endorse, and authorize their work. We are responsible for assuring meaningful worship opportunities according to liturgical season, host guest ministers, and offer the Lord's Supper. We authorize educational materials and curriculum, the collection of Special Offerings, and Moments for Mission. Session receives and welcomes new members and authorizes the baptism of children of God.

This year we updated and recommitted to the Church-College Covenant with the Warren Wilson College Board of Trustees. We review the financial statements each month and have oversight for use of endowment earnings, approve expenditures from special funds outside the annual budget, and Session authorizes applications for grants to support our work and support our neighbors in need. We review the use of our space and contract its utilization by outside groups. This fall we extended an invitation to share Ransom Fellowship Hall with the Swannanoa Valley Friends for their weekly meeting for worship, as SVFM lost its home due to hurricane related flooding on the Swannanoa River.

We seek to arise to the world's needs in matters of injustice, educating and mobilizing our church when called. In addition to the work of ministry teams, session assures auxiliary needs are addressed by appointing a task force or populating annual teams (to create a Mission Study Plan, welcome refugees, prepare the budget, coordinate stewardship season, audit our finances, or provide for staff reviews). A list of Ministry Teams and all those who lend their time and energy is at the end of this report.

Session convenes congregational meetings and serves as the Board of Trustees for the WWPC&CC corporation for the conduct of business.

Session members, in addition to actively participating in Session meetings, share responsibilities for preparing the chapel for worship each Sunday through the Elder of the Day system. And we are deeply grateful to Derron Daugherty, Jim Storey, and student Alex Collins for their technical skills to amplify and broadcast our worship! Elders each serve on, chair, or are the liaison for at least one Ministry Team. They volunteer as commissioners to attend a quarterly Presbytery meeting on our behalf and report back to the Session.

In 2025 Session reviewed and endorsed the Mission Study Plan created by that team, with input from our congregants and community. With Laurie's guidance we

discerned the ideal slate of nominees for our Pastor Nominating Committee who were elected by WWPC members, and we authorized a task force to develop the Terms of Call for the next minister.

And since session prepares an annual report for all our congregation, we commend this document to you, with grateful hearts for your presence in our community. May it open your eyes to the connectedness of all our teams, our members and our work to serve God in our community. May it encourage the Light within you as it shines in our fellowship.

WARREN WILSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2025/26 Session Members

2025 CLASS (rotated off)

Sharon Lytle
Natalie Daugherty

2026 CLASS

Don Collins
James (Jim) Storey

2027 CLASS

Leslie Sayyar
Chrisann Ohler

2028 CLASS

Natalie Daugherty
Jack Allison

Youth Elder – One year term

Cadence Cowal

CLERK

Sally Broughton

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

The work of the committee this year focused primarily on managing the funds in its care. Natalie Daugherty took Bob Gambrell's place as chair. The church budget, approved by session in January, allocated a total of \$20,350 to Community Engagement oversight. At its Feb. meeting, session approved our plan for distributions among eighteen local non-profits addressing hunger, housing, education, environmental, immigration, and justice concerns. \$7,600 was designated for Presbytery, plus \$800 to Presbytery's four Building Hope projects. Additionally, \$1200 was targeted for international missions.

The Community Engagement Team also has access to the Community Outreach Endowment Funds and the Community Engagement Designated fund. Disbursements for those funds can be found in the financial reports.

The Community Engagement Team also supports the receipt of special offerings including the four/quarterly PCUSA offerings, plus our local Habitat and Souper Bowl Offerings. This team, along with church youth, provide a Moment for Mission for these offerings and select local non-profits to be the recipients. A detailed report for this \$11,813 in gifts can be found on page 14.

Each year Corise Gambrell and Sarah Anne Eller host a recreational event for the residents of the Hope for Tomorrow apartments (Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry.) In July, a pool and life-guards are secured along with a picnic meal for these moms and their children. Many of our members volunteer in the community; continue reading to learn about our participation this year with Habitat, Veterans Quarters and with the Circle of Welcome.

Habitat for Humanity

Our church's long and faithful support for Habitat for Humanity continued in 2025 with nine church members volunteering a total of 55 hours at the Asheville chapter's Glenn Bridge work site in Arden where House of Faith #4 was completed. In addition, Don Collins was one of a small group of volunteers who spent a day in October prebuilding walls for new Habitat houses at a shop setup for that purpose in Hendersonville. Habitat has found that prebuilt walls like this are better quality than walls built at a construction site.

A Habitat highlight in 2025 was the first visit since Covid by a future homeowner whose house our church helped build with both financial and volunteer labor support. Just a few months before becoming the homeowner of House of Faith #4 along with his partner, Regenia, Wayne Thomas participated in a Moment for Mission at the start of our March 30 worship service. Wayne had used his own construction and electrical skills to help build an affordable and spacious house for Regenia who is confined to a wheelchair, and thanked us for helping make that happen.

The next time you are in Fellowship Hall, take a moment to walk back to the Adult Education Room and look at the individual photos on the walls of the Habitat Houses our church members have helped build. There are 21 of them.



Our Habitat Moment for Mission on March 30, 2025. Future House of Faith #4 homeowner Wayne Thomas is third from the right and Habitat staff member Beth Coakley is third from the left.

Veteran's Restoration Quarters (VRQ)

As we have done for a very long time, our church continued to provide volunteers to serve lunch once a month to residents of ABCCM's Veterans Restoration Quarters (VRQ) on Tunnel Rd throughout 2025. This facility provides 160 beds of transitional housing, up to 40 beds for veteran emergency shelter in cold weather and 50 units of permanent supportive housing for a total of 250 beds.

Prior to Hurricane Helene in September, 2024, as many as six of our volunteers spent the morning in the VRQ kitchen, preparing all kinds of food, packing sack lunches, and cooking that day's lunch and then serving it to the residents at noon.

Because the hurricane destroyed the building's first floor including the kitchen and dining room, the residents were moved to a long-term temporary location across Tunnel Rd which does not have a kitchen or dining room. Food for each meal there is supplied by groups like Mercy Chefs, and three of our volunteers serve it on the fourth Friday of each month.

Rebuilding of the first floor of the original VRQ location will start in April and is expected to be complete in 18 months or less. This will include a new kitchen and dining room where we will be cooking and serving once again when the reconstruction is complete.

Susan and Derron Daugherty, frequent volunteers along with Anne and Jamie Dale when we serve lunch at the VRQ each month, were there on May 22 when car racing legend Jimmie Johnson, on the right, stopped by to mingle with the veterans.



Circle of Welcome - Azizi family, 2025

The Circle of Welcome for the Azizi family has provided support in various ways—getting them to medical & dental appointments, driving them to the grocery, helping complete paperwork for Medicaid and Green Cards, celebrating birthdays, tutoring in English, helping Mir Aqa learn to drive, and getting a vehicle. The driver's license and car are a major step forward. The van was a gift from a family that is part of the group at Valley Hope Church that supports an Afghan family. They were aware of the Azizi family and offered their van.

Mir Aqa, the father, continues washing dishes at Highland Farms. The two older children are in school, Hadia at Owen Middle and Maihan at WD Williams. Tamana, the mother, stays at home with Mudaser, the four year old. Mir Aqa's supervisors have said he is very liked and appreciated at work. Tamana is showing a lot of growth with navigating things like doctor appointments and shopping without being completely reliant on having someone with her to explain the system or translate. She wants to learn to drive. Hadia is doing very well at school. She already is planning where she wants to earn her undergraduate and graduate degrees. Hadia has also quietly started interpreting for her parents when they are out in the community. Maihan has learned a lot of social skills/English at school and shows confidence in navigating the world outside his home. Mudaser has picked up an astounding amount of English from listening to visitors and watching English TV - this will benefit him when he enters kindergarten next year.

The Circle members are Vicki Collins, Jamie Dale, Joy Inabinette, Chrisann Ohler, and Bekah Thapa. Joy & Bekah are not church members, and have been a HUGE help in multiple ways. They are blessings in the flesh.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Team continues its work to share the church's message throughout the community. Through social media content, website updates and design, direct and electronic mailings, WWPC Newsletter, Parlor screen content of church event updates, church directory, Stewardship assistance, and member access to Breeze, the team promoted church events, including homecoming and centennial, and helped to keep the congregation and community well informed.

With new staff coming onboard, team members worked towards a smooth technology transition and updated media accounts with new credentials. We review and update the website with staff photos and bios, new events, and worship opportunities. Team members worked with the college to promote college events to the church and church events to the college. The website calendar has a four fold increase in the number of events from previous years. We designed and printed cards, posters, and table tents to invite visitors to join us for Sunday service. We assist members and staff with content, formatting, and technology when requested. We were able to reduce hosting cost for the website for future years. We are planning to assist the PNC once a new pastor has been called. We look forward to announcing the candidate, assisting them with integrating into the church and community, and publishing information once the PNC releases it.

Communications Team worked with other ministry teams to gather requirements for a monitor in the youth room and for Zoom calls and presentations in the fellowship hall and classrooms. Two monitors, a rolling cart, and Zoom camera system were purchased and setup for church events to use.

We continued updating contact information and photographs for the member directory, and published a revised PDF version. With an aim toward greater visibility and to assist visitors in locating the church signs have been created and purchased. They will be put on Warren Wilson Road to direct visitors to Chapel Lane. We also assisted with printing signs requested by the Worship and Music Team to help direct visitors to parking during church sponsored events.

Over the years we continue to learn how, when, and what to communicate; it's truly a team effort. Our church community is a lively group with much to convey!

SPIRITUAL NURTURE

Both the adult education and youth programs had a busy 2025! The adult education discussed 5 books related to spiritual development that created robust and insightful discussions across the programmatic year. Some of the titles featured were: "Worth Fighting For: Finding Courage & Compassion When Cruelty Is Trending" by John Pavlovitz and "The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Final Days in Jerusalem" by Marcus Borg & John Dominic Crossan. During Advent the Rev. John Lamotte prepared a series of lessons focusing on Old Testament prophecies about Jesus's coming.

After Ash Wednesday a Lenten book and activity sheets from A Sanctified Art, Illustrated Ministry, were shared with the children and youth.

This past year also saw 5 youth move through confirmation, completing service projects, and joining as members of the church on Pentecost Sunday. From April 27-June 8 Pastor Laurie led these young folks through an adaptation of Mark D. Hinds curriculum, "Changing the World: Confirmation for the Missional Church", aimed at teaching young church members to carry the church with them wherever they go. The congregation joined in learning through weekly sermons themed around the confirmation curriculum. Each young person was partnered with congregant mentors: Bob & Corise Gambrell, Don & Vicki Collins, Ann & Jamie Dale, Beth Meriwether and Sarah Anne Eller, and each was given a Bible, translation of their choice, during the Pentecost worship service.



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SPIRITUAL NURTURE continued

Session approved use of endowment earnings to purchase a large screen TV monitor for the downstairs youth room. Brent Roberts purchased and installed the monitor in time to host a new programmatic effort: mid-summer movie nights aimed to bring more diverse and inclusive viewpoints and discussions. These family movie nights screened “Will and Harper” and “Marcel the Shell With Shoes On” in the youth room.

In conjunction with Congregational Life Team, our neighborhood-focused celebration of fun and crafts, Trunk or Treat, returned over the Halloween weekend. Beth Meriwether convened Together which meets twice a month. Trusting in Matthew’s text: “Come, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest,” we are invited to join the Together Group, meeting the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:30 in the church parlor for a time of sharing, contemplation, and prayer. Jesus invites us to come to him and to come together to share our burdens and find rest. Additionally, the church is also hosting new Yoga and Tai Chi/Qigong classes.

With funds from our Spiritual Nurture Endowment earnings, members were supported to attend events: Beth Meriwether to attend a John Philip Newell retreat at Montreat about which she presented to the Adult Education class. Cadence Cowal was sponsored to attend the Presbyterian Youth Triennium and offered an update before worship one Sunday.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

The Congregational Life Team kicked off the 2025 year by having each member sign up to send monthly birthday notes and postcards to celebrate fellow congregants.

On March 4th, the congregation gathered for a successful Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, enjoying both fellowship and food.

April brought the joy of Easter, which we celebrated on April 20th with an Easter Brunch followed by the annual Egg Hunt

after the church service. During the spring season, we also shared Spring Treat Bags with our shut-ins and those on our care and concern list. We wrapped up spring activities with the traditional Ice Cream Social on May 4th celebrating the end of the school year for college students and school-age children.

In June, we came together for moments of remembrance. On June 7th we hosted Joanne Lincoln’s Memorial and Reception. The following day, June 8th, the Confirmation class graduated, with Congregational Life hosting Fellowship Time. We honored Olivia LaMotte with a celebration of life service and reception on June 8th. On July 6th, we held a Fourth of July picnic following the church service.

In the fall, the church gathered on October 3rd for Billy Edd Wheeler’s Memorial Service and Reception. Homecoming was celebrated with a potluck meal on October 5th and on October 19th we observed Pastor Appreciation Sunday. November was filled with community-centered events, beginning with Trunk or Treat on November 2nd, held in partnership with the Spiritual Nurture Team. Later in the month, on November 27th, the congregation shared a Thanksgiving Dinner Potluck in the Fellowship Hall.

The year concluded with warm holiday traditions. On December 14th, we enjoyed Wassail following the church service. Throughout the Christmas season, the team also sent Christmas Treat Bags to those on our care and concern list, as well as to our shut-ins, ensuring that all felt remembered and included as the year ended.

Once again, the team is grateful to all who bring us together in faith, fellowship, and love.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Pastor Nominating Committee worked diligently through 2025 as they searched for a pastor candidate for WWPC. The PNC consisted of Brent Roberts, Elizabeth Cook, Natalie Daugherty, Rodney Lytle and Chrisann Ohler and was formed in May. Through the late Spring and Summer, the PNC reviewed candidates submitted by self-referral and matched through the Church Leadership Connection database. The PNC reviewed over 65 candidates and invited over 40 to apply. Through a rigorous discernment process, the PNC continued to interview and meet prospective candidates through the Fall and Winter months. Their work continues through January 2026 at good speed and with prayerful progress.

The team will present more information and terms of call at the February 1 congregational meeting.



WORSHIP & MUSIC

This was a busy year for Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church, as we celebrated our Centennial year on campus. The original charter for our church was signed on Nov. 22, 2025, and we commemorated this with a series of events in October and November, accompanied by a display of current and historical photos in the Narthex. There was a Blessing of the Animals in the Pavilion on Oct. 1, officiated by Transitional Pastor Rev. Dr. Laurie Furr-Vancini and College Chaplain Rev. Dr. Shannon Spencer. The Homecoming service on October 5 was led by 4 alumni pastors; 32 alumni joined the choir



to make a very joyful noise. Anna Marie Mackey blessed us with her beautiful soprano voice, and we joined in fellowship for a potluck dinner afterward. A concert of piano and violin honored our rich musical history and talented Music and Choir Directors, with particular gratitude to the late Dr. Steve Williams. The Preservation Society hosted a lecture on the architecture of Six Associates, including Charlie Sappenfield, who designed our beautiful chapel. The celebration concluded Thanksgiving week, with the traditional farm display (with pigs!) in the chancel. A reception and multimedia presentation with 3 narrators that recounted the history of the Church and College, and their ever intertwining relationship.

A delicious potluck dinner was served on Thanksgiving Day for congregants and students remaining on campus for the holiday. The liturgical year was led by Rev. Dr. Furr-Vancini's engaging and inspirational sermons. The Lenten Series was based

on a program called A Sanctified Art. After Easter, she delivered the Love Above All sermon series, embracing the topics of Grace & Joy, Hospitality, Justice, Unity, Compassion, Humility & Gratitude, and Wisdom. This was followed by a series of poignant stories from the Old Testament. WWC students led one service each semester; we are blessed to receive their talent and insight, and these services are always warmly received. On Labor Day weekend, we dedicated the new Peace Garden to John E. Koegel '69; many of his family members and friends were in attendance. Ted Stewart's devotion to our music program was again apparent, through skilled organ and piano performance, continued strengthening of our choir, and faithful stewardship toward the maintenance of our organ. He continues to seek ways to expand our musical offerings during worship and for special events. The Bell Choir, under Natalie Daugherty's direction, brought a little magic to many of our services. On June 8, our Church received 8 new members - 5 from the confirmation class, one affiliate member, and two by transfer of letter. Later in the summer, a WWC student joined the Church and was baptized.

The team is comprised of Rev. Dr. Laurie Furr-Vancini (Transitional Pastor), Ted Stewart (Music Director), Andrew Tripp (Church Administrator), Chrisann Ohler (Chair), Janice Collins, and Derron Daugherty



Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church Centennial Celebration



Sharing God's Love for 100 Years

- Wed, Oct1,6pm-**Blessing of the Animals** in the Pavilion; dogs must be on leash and cats in carriers; all species welcome
- Sun,Oct5,11am-**Homecoming Church Service** in the chapel followed by potluck dinner in the Fellowship Hall; alumni pastors and choir members participating
- Sun,Nov9,3pm-**Concert to honor Steve Williams** in the chapel
- Thur,Nov13,5:30pm - **Preservation Society lecture** in the chapel
- Sun,Nov23,11am-**Thanksgiving Farm Display** in the chapel
- Sun,Nov23,12pm-**Anniversary Celebration and Reception** in Ransom Fellowship Hall
- Thur,Nov27,2pm-Free **Thanksgiving Dinner** in the Fellowship Hall

~ All are welcome ~

Uniting for the Common Good

CHURCH-COLLEGE RELATIONS

This has been a very productive year marking many activities and events involving both the college and the Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church. We worked closely with the college's Spiritual Life Crew and Chaplain Rev. Dr. Shannon Spencer with students' involvement in faith activities. The highlights of these activities have been two student-led Church services in 2025, and plans for student-led services for 2026. These have been warmly received by Church members, and the students have gained much confidence in leading worship – music, dramatic readings, and preaching! The College Mission and WWPC's mission overlap in many ways supporting community service, welcoming to people of all diversities, and developing a true sense of caring and love for all others.

The Church has made a conscientious effort to become more openly welcoming to LGBTQIA+ people to the Church. Many students had come to WWC having experienced hateful treatment from professed Christian churches that demonized people of non-binary sexuality. Several students have come to feel very welcome in the WWPC environment. This conscientious inclusiveness within our Church led to the display of a Pride banner on the front of the Church building. The Church has sponsored the visit by Katy Schafer – mother of trans Hollywood super model and actress Hunter Schafer – and her friend Rev. Mary Kay Scott – mother of a trans student enrolled in WWC – to speak with the College students and the Church on parenting of non-binary children.

The Church has made efforts to continue offering financial help for international students for supplies and needs. WWC graduate and current staff member Rachel Kerr has been a major help in explaining to us the special needs of international students and suggesting ways the Church can help these people in our ministries. A temporary home was made available to a graduating international student for early summer of 2025; a grant was made to another international student for the fee to take a graduate aptitude test for applying to graduate study. Annual welcoming potluck dinner for new and returning students; sharing Thanksgiving dinner with students and College staff; inviting students to "Cookies and Carols" preceding the Winter Break have been fun and meaningful events for both students and Church members.

The Ash Wednesday service at the beginning of Lent in 2025 was a very meaningful event involving a number of students in leading roles. The Church also submitted a proposal to the Presbytery to enhance Church Vibrancy and received a grant to help fund student-church activities through meals together namely Thanksgiving, and Cookies and Carols – especially welcoming international students.

Community service has shown its strong overlap of both Church and College missions. A student initiated "Tiny House" construction project came to fruition independent of the Church. Several Church members volunteered on a workday at the College painting the new buildings exterior. The Tiny House is available for much-needed housing for a small family in need of housing in the area. The College

Community Engagement Crew sponsors an "Empty Bowls" dinner each year with much Church participation as a College fundraiser to support a local non-profit (Twelve Baskets in fall, 2025). The Church-College team re-started the periodic drive to hold a registration event for possible bone marrow and/or stem cell donors addressed to students. Those wishing to become possible life-saving donors simply take cheek swabs, submit the swabs in an envelope for Project Life. Project Life analyses the swabs, enters the analysis into a national data-base, and enables matches possible donors to qualified patients.

The Church and College have recently re-affirmed the Church-College Covenant agreement regarding the Church's use of the College Chapel and the Ransom Fellowship Center regarding maintenance, utilities, and capital improvements. This document was approved by both the Session for WWPC and the WWC Board of Trustees. The CCR team also participated in the recent Church Centennial Celebration and the WWC Homecoming with much work from Chrisann Ohler and Kay Stockdale.

A student has learned how to operate WWPC sound system for Church services and has become very reliable and successful providing quality audio.



Katy Schafer speaking with a WWC student during her visit.

2025 MUSIC DEPARTMENT - Ted Stewart, Music Director/Organist

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church Choir - We have been delighted to see the choir grow this year, both in numbers and singing ability. Attendance on any given Sunday may be between 6-15. They are a faithful and devoted group. Because the majority are seniors, they deal with more healing issues for themselves and family members far and near, travel, grand family care, and events with family/friends and vacations. It would be great to have a few more singers to cover absentees. Our sign-in calendar for upcoming absentees is essential in planning ahead, whether we will sing an anthem of 1, 2, 3, or 4-part music.

Because our sanctuary is so large, we work regularly with vocal techniques to expand and unify our voices. We work three weeks ahead for each anthem and try to complement our anthem texts with the lessons of the day, when we have that service information. It has been amazing to watch the choir match their singing style to the message of the hymns and anthem texts. Sunday after Sunday, I am amazed at the choir's inspiring execution of their music. We take on the mission of being music leaders in worship. We hope the congregation is responding in like manner.

It is an absolute joy being together and leading music for our services. All the members are strongly devoted to bringing leadership and inspiration to hymns and anthems.

We invite anyone who can sing a tune to join the choir in music making. Choir practice is each Wednesday, 7:00 pm to 8:20 in the Choir Loft. Sunday Service Warm-up is 10:15 a.m. Service time is 11:00 am. We do break for summer. We've been blessed with two college singers this year—a delight. Questions/Chat? Call/email Director Ted Stewart or simply show up at rehearsal. We keep a choir folder ready for you.

Handbells We are delighted with our handbell ministry under the superb direction of Natalie Daugherty. The handbell choir plays for the church service about once per month. They practice weekly at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays in the large classroom and take a break for summer. A couple more ringers would be most helpful. Talk to Natalie about helping out.

Organ We are deeply blessed with a magnificent pipe organ (Schantz /Walker/Angerstein). The Schantz Organ Company of Orrville, Ohio, built a small organ of 11 ranks of pipes in 1965, added 6 more ranks in 1968 and 5 more ranks in 1973, for a total of 22 ranks spread upon 2 manuals + pedals. In 2008, Organist/Director of Music Steven Williams oversaw the addition of 44 more virtual digital ranks to the pipes spread over 3 manuals + pedals, for a total of 66 ranks and 81 stops by Walker Technical Company of Zionville, PA. It was installed by Angerstein Organ Works of Hendersonville, NC. With the 2008 additions the organ is ready for a small congregation of people or a full church. The organ is full of color and goes from a sweet whisper to a triumphant roar in a beautifully live acoustic—a great joy to play in my retirement years.

The organ's 44 pipe stops are 61 years old this year, while the 44 digital stops are 18 years old. Typical pipe organs need some upgrading repairs, most commonly with cracking leather, when it reaches the age of 50-70 years. We believe that these pipes have not had updating repair since being built. The visible leather parts we can see, still look to be functioning ok, though the leather that we cannot see is sealed inside the organ's windchests. Oiling the leathers may add as much of 20 years of wear.

We have had two periods in 2025 when the organ broke down. Wednesday, September 24, 2025 after choir practice, Rodney and I were visiting (at a distance from the organ) when every pipe and digital note in the organ suddenly played blaring away—a shock that neither of us will never forget. After much searching from our technicians they ordered a new Circuit Board from Walker Technical Co in Center Valley, PA—the organ was back in business. Four days before Christmas Eve, all of our pipes went silent. This time the issue was the death of the original 1965 rectifier (the organ's DC electricity source). The new rectifier was all new technology; the old one an unrepairable antique. The organ was back working on January 9. This breakdown was inevitable because of age. Luckily the digital stops were not affected so I was able to get by on two Sundays with the few digital stops that were appropriate. One minor left-over issue is that two-three pipes may hang on to their note for 3-6 seconds after I release the key (creating a cipher). We have had initial discussion about this and some progress was made, but ciphers may still be hanging around.

In 2008, the organ had built into it two other pieces of digital hardware: a sequencer (a play-back system) and a Sound Module (Midi Stops which add orchestral instrument sounds [including piano] to play through the organ's speakers--like extra stops.) We know that Steven Williams had software and did use the Sequencer, but we have no knowledge if he had software for a sound module. At this point we are searching for what is probably now new updated software that may be added to the instrument. The sequencer would be very valuable for me to record the choir's accompaniment so that I could be free to conduct them with both hands.

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2025 MUSIC DEPARTMENT - continued

Musical Highlights This Year:

Tribute of Thanks Concert by Friends of Dr. Steven Alan Williams - A 100th Year Anniversary Celebration Event of Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church--Sunday, November 9, 2025. This recital was performed by beloved colleagues of Steven Williams: Dewitt Tipton, piano; Rebecca Hettrick, violin; and Benjamin Blozan, piano. The tribute also included Dr. Schuyler Robinson, Dr. Robert Paul Keener, Dr. Steven Alan Williams, and all Warren Wilson College Music Teachers, Directors, and College Organists in thanksgiving for their inspiring music ministry to church and college over the years, as part of the churches 100-year celebration. Also, the church gives thanks for Steven's 37 years as the last College Employed Music Director to work at the church. Steven died on December 18, 2019. In leaving his work at Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church, Steven left in his will a very substantial financial dedicated gift for tuning, repairs and the long-term maintenance of the organ that he loved so dearly. With this in mind, we are assessing the long-term needs of the organ for tuning and preventative maintenance—and not waiting for more emergency breakdowns. Thank you Steven Williams!

On our 100th Anniversary Sunday 11:00 a.m. service, November 23, 2025, Our choir was joined by 38 college alumni choir singers for a glorious music celebration of anthem and hymns on homecoming weekend—a day to remember with a packed choir loft.

Asheville Area Piano Forum Benefit Concert, October 19, 2025. This concert by ten concert artist members of the Piano Forum showcased beautifully our new Yamaha 7'6" grand piano, taking the piano through all of its magnificent paces in our lovely chapel acoustics. As a church event, it raised over \$3,000 for children in need of financial aid for receiving piano lessons. This very successful event also granted free tickets to members/friends of WWPC. This Music Department concert was also part of the church's 100-year Anniversary Celebration.

Asheville Area Piano Forum Performance Group, December 6, 2025. Nine artist members of the Piano Forum provided an opportunity for a visiting pastoral candidate to hear both piano and organ performances on our beautiful instruments with equally beautiful room acoustics.

Instrumentalists We are grateful to have some instrumentalists who have played their instruments throughout the season:

Beth Meriweather: Flute;

Warren Wilson College Students: Brea Cyphert: Oboe; Eloise Hill: Violin; Lauren Holding: Piano.

Warren Wilson College Musical Events. Because the college's music performance hall, Kittredge Theater, and the music building were shut down for extensive Heating and Cooling replacement, the Chapel was used for many concert events. We are sorry to report that HVAC construction of the hall and music building continue to be delayed to an unknown date. Our new piano now may continue to provide a place for professional classical events and recordings. Members of the church are welcome to attend these programs.

Chamber Music Society of the Carolina—4 Saturday evenings of July

Swannanoa Gathering—Summer of 2025

College Student Music Recitals—Semester Ends

Decoda Chamber Music Festival—last 2 weeks of June 2025

Montreat - I thank the church for funding tuition for me to attend Summer Montreat Music and Worship Conferences the past two summers. They have helped so much for my growth in understanding Presbyterian Church Music practices.

Thank you to the People of Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church - Despite small numbers of people in a large Chapel, we are making wonderful music each Sunday. We are greatly blessed to have marvelous leaders and beloved friends:

Transitional Pastors Margaret Lamotte-Torrence and Laurie Furr-Vancini—a joy to work with such insightful and inspiring pastors; Church Administrator Andrew Tripp—a wizard in bringing so many details together every day and week so that both short and long-term chores come together in publications and church details in timely completion—note our Sunday church bulletins every Friday; the full staff who keep things moving steadily through the pipeline—Leslie Sayyar, Brent Roberts, Barbara Escalante, Music and Worship Chair Chrisann Ohler--keeping us forward-looking to things liturgical and creative; and most importantly the congregation that attends and supports so many programs in such a dedicated way, including singing fully with heart and voice.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Ted Stewart, Organist/Choir Director

Guest Preachers in 2025

Warren Wilson Presbyterian congregants have been privileged to hear God's word shared from quite a few guest ministers this year. We have welcomed:



Dr. April Love-Fordham



Rev. Jamie Dale



Rev. Pat Hardy



Rev. Wilson Kennedy



Rev. Cindy Riley



Rev. Dr. Shannon Spencer



Rev. Susan Verbrugge



Rev. Schaap Freeman



Rev. Keith Grogg



Rev. Dr. Lewis Galloway



The Homecoming service gathered in several WWC alums to lead worship: Rev. Dr. Howard Boswell ('80), Rev. Dr. Kevin Frederick ('77), Rev. Kathy Dall Campbell ('78), Rev. Dr. Allen Smith ('92)

Our Sacred Space

The Ohler Spiritual Center refers to the small complex of buildings comprised of the Warren Wilson Church and College Chapel, the Ransom Fellowship Hall, and the attached education wing. It's no secret that it is shared space, occupied primarily by the WW Presbyterian Church, but also regularly used by the college (which actually owns the buildings). We are grateful to have a covenant relationship with the college Board of Trustees, which allows for maintenance expenses to be shared, and each major project to be considered bilaterally. During the past year, that written covenant was reviewed, revised, and re- approved.

As described in last year's annual report, considerable upgrades were required following the advent of Hurricane Helene, which caused water damage resulting in a need for mold abatement. These upgrades encouraged us to live more fully into a goal of the 2016 Ministry Plan: "Increase the Use of the Ohler Spiritual Center by Outside Groups." With new roofing, flooring, drywall, and paint in 2024—and a wonderful new piano to use in 2025—we felt well-prepared to open the doors to our community. We are deeply grateful to the college for its part in securing funds for last year's renovations, and to the congregation for funds to move forward with new exterior stain this year!

This sacred space was widely shared, thanks in part to the work of the Centennial Team, which brought attention to our church in celebration of its 100-year history (see Worship & Music Team report), including a piano concert honoring our former director of music, Steven Williams. With the encouragement and assistance of our music director, Ted Stewart, the chapel was filled with special music, throughout the year:

- the Asheville Piano Forum introduced gifted local pianists to our community as they hosted their fall fundraising performance in the chapel.
- The Blue Ridge Orchestra performed its Post-Helene: Remembering, Rebuilding, and Re- imagining program in our space.
- For the second summer, the chapel was home to the Swannanoa Gathering's weekly performances.
- Congregants also enjoyed the music of the Chamber Music Society of the Carolinas.
- An artist-led collective, Decoda, found here a place to fulfill its mission, "to create a more compassionate and connected world through music while facilitating creative community projects, and training the next generation of musical artists".

Andrew Tripp, our church administrator, is to be commended for negotiating agreements, maintaining the schedule for our several spaces, and managing the sometimes competing needs of congregational worship and artist performance, all with his usual equanimity. While these performances were periodic, there also have been regularly recurring local events that found a home here. The storm displaced numerous individuals, families, and groups in our community. One of those was a free yoga class, held at the nearby Riceville Community Center. They have relocated weekly classes to our youth room, and congregants are welcomed. The Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting lost their home in Black Mountain due to flooding, and after searching for a new location, they have found Ransom Fellowship to be a welcoming place for their Sunday afternoon meetings for worship. Our own Paulette Heck has begun leading a weekly Tai Chi/Qigong class, held in Lower Fellowship.

As would hosting a guest in one's home, all of these activities have required the negotiations, flexibility, and acclimation involved in sharing space. And we are privileged to offer, host, and share our bountiful blessings.



ADMINISTRATION

The Administration Ministry Team (AMT) met monthly, either in person or via Zoom, to offer recommendations on the many financial and administrative needs for the smooth functioning of the congregation. The responsibilities of the AMT span three general categories: **finance, personnel, and administration**. The AMT's financial responsibilities include ongoing tasks such as **reviewing the church's monthly financial reports and quarterly endowment reports** and dealing with unusual expenses as they arise. Other financial highlights include some annual tasks such as the **approval of the 2025 budget** in January 2025, the completion of a thorough **audit of the church's 2024 finances**, a remarkably successful **stewardship campaign in the fall**, and the **preparation of the 2026 budget**, with final Session approval in January 2026. There were also several non-recurring financial items that required significant attention from the AMT in 2025 including **installing new lights in the narthex and parlor and re-staining the exterior of the Chapel**.

Personnel management highlights included assisting the Pastor Nominating Committee by developing proposed **financial terms of call for a new permanent pastor**. AMT also formed the **annual Personnel Review Team** which performed the 2025 review of the church staff. The review process in 2025 was somewhat unusual since our Transitional Pastor had only been on staff a few months, our Administrator had been a permanent employee for less than a year, and our Music Director was serving in an interim capacity. The "review" followed the same structure as previous years with comments solicited from Ministry Teams, the choirs, the adult Sunday school participants, and the congregation at large, but the focus was oriented toward identifying and resolving any problems or issues that Laurie, Andrew, or Ted were experiencing, and soliciting their ideas about how the church could better support them. One important outcome of this review was **Ted Stewart's expression of interest in moving beyond his interim role to become the WWPC Music Director**, a move which was quickly approved by the Session.

The AMT's administrative activities included supporting the Session by working with the College to finalize the **2025 revision of the Church-College Covenant document** which was signed in May.

2026 Budget

The 2026 budget recently approved by the Session builds upon our 2025 financial results while anticipating further changes to our pastoral staff including the calling of a new Pastor and the possible additional of an Associate later in the year. Completing another year of transition the Session approved an **ambitious challenge budget for 2026**. Despite what we believed was an optimistic target our stewardship campaign exceeded the challenge budget goals well before the end of the year making it possible to **fully fund all the challenge budget spending goals, to eliminate the need to use non-recurring funds for the Associate Pastor position, and to restore funding for the Sunday school workers budget**.

Your generosity made possible several notable aspects of the budget for 2025. The Session was able to **give our non-ordained staff a 4.25% raise**, include a health care stipend for the Church Administrator, to **fully fund our Transition Pastor's contract** while providing for **calling a new Pastor** in the 2nd quarter of 2026. The budget also provides funding for a **part-time Associate** position beginning in the 2nd quarter. The 2026 operating budget adds dedicated **funding for our Stewardship Team** and **continues the annual allocation of \$500 to handbell and chime maintenance** initiated in 2024. These handbell funds are being accumulated in a designated fund to finance a five-year program of routine handbell and chime maintenance.

Close examination of the budget reveals less dramatic changes that are still worth noting. The budget reflects a meaningful **increase in community engagement spending**. The increase is \$2,750, divided between support of the denomination and local organizations. The budget also continues to provide dedicated funding for the Music Director to participate in the annual Presbyterian Musicians' conference at Montreat.

FINANCES 2025

2025 was another year of personnel transitions with Rev. Dr. Laurie Furr-Vancini replacing Rev. Margaret LaMotte Torrence as our Transition Pastor. Despite these changes Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church did not miss a beat, finishing 2025 in a strong financial position. **We ended the year with a large surplus of \$22,286.56.** The surplus was the result of higher than projected giving and lower than projected expenses. You can review the exact details in the December 31 revenue statement prepared by our bookkeeper and treasurer.

Year after year **your generosity consistently exceeds our expectations** and in 2025 this was even more apparent than usual. Those who made commitments for 2025 **gave \$7,459.00 more than the total commitments** we received at the end of the stewardship campaign Regular givers who did not make commitments for 2025 also **exceeded our estimate by \$84.15** and loose offering was **\$2,727.00 greater than anticipated.** Our **total giving was \$244,726.15 (\$10,270.15 more than our budget projections).**

Our personnel budget for 2025 included a \$19,500 allocation from non-recurring designated funds for pastor search expenses in anticipation of beginning the search for a new permanent pastor during the year. Most of these funds remained unused in 2025 as the Pastor Nominating Committee continues its work. The remaining funds were preserved for use in 2026 for new pastor relocation expenses. Personnel expenses for our permanent staff (pastor, administrator, and music director) largely tracked the budgeted amounts but the fact that there was no associate pastor in the fourth quarter reduced expenses (by \$4,448) as did the reduced need for pastor search expenses noted above. Excluding the unused budget for pastor search expenses, our other expenses were an additional \$7,552.05 lower than our budget projected, due to a combination of reduced expenditures in the music and education programs, additional reductions in personnel expenditures for sound technician pay, and careful management of our administrative expenses.

The church’s strong financial position allowed us to retire the remaining debt from the purchase of our new piano, to install new lights in the narthex and parlor and to re-stain the Chapel exterior during 2025.

As usual, **the generosity of this congregation extended beyond the operating budget. In addition to the \$20,350 the church allocates to community engagement in the operating budget, the congregation contributed \$10,331 to special offerings.** Some of the largest of these gifts were \$2,986 for **One Great Hour of Sharing**, \$1,635 for the **Peace and Global Witness** offering, \$1,559 for the **Christmas Joy** offering, \$1,885 for **Our Daily Change**, \$1,000 for **Pentecost**, and \$788 for the **Souper Bowl**. Grants of \$10,000 and \$2,500 from **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**, a \$1,000 donation from **Cumberland Presbyterian Church** of Farmville, VA and additional contributions from the congregation, all contributed to the **Buncombe County Hurricane Relief designated fund** to assist local families who suffered losses during Helene. Altogether this represents **over \$44,000 to support our local and global missions.**

WWPC Special Offerings January – December 2025

*Souper Bowl Offering \$788.00
One Great Hour of Sharing \$2986.00
Our Daily Change \$1885.00
Peace & Global Witness \$1226.62
**Peace & Global Wit Local \$408.88
Pentecost \$600.00
***Pentecost Local \$400.00
Habitat for Humanity \$477.50
Christmas Joy Offering \$1559.00
TOTAL- \$10,331

Other Special Offerings
SVCN Walk For Life \$300.00
Video Equipment \$1000.00
Ministry of Hope Supplies \$175
SVCN \$7
TOTAL - \$1,482
GRAND Total - \$11,813

*\$788 to Bounty & Soul
**\$452.63 (\$43.75 prior year) to Hands & Feet AVL
***\$420 (\$20 prior year) to Hands & Feet AVL
\$1000 to Katy Schafer Event (all \$ from prior year)

The outstanding 2025 financial results that your giving produced **places the church in a strong financial position.** The balance sheet itemizes the allocation of the substantial increase in our assets. **During 2025 the church’s assets increased by \$80,900.73 to \$748,589.08.** The primary contributor to the increase was substantial gains in the market value of the church’s endowment assets which increased by \$58,890.83. The balance sheet details how those assets are allocated to the various endowment and other accounts that the church has established over the years. The total equity of \$50,981.26 is the value of the assets that the Session has not yet designated to any specific account.

Endowment Fund

Our **endowment funds total balance grew substantially in 2025 – from \$494,471.75 to \$553,362.58**, the result of a combination of a **sound investment approach** and a **rising stock market**. The Funds Ministry Committee has invested most of the assets of the endowments in mutual funds administered by the Presbyterian Foundation. In addition, the committee retains the assets available for distribution as earnings in an Endowment Money Market Fund at First Bank.

The December 31, 2025 endowment balance includes the assets of **six endowment funds**. The individual balances were:

- **General Endowment - \$244,915.46**
- **Community Outreach - \$36,300.56**
- **Spiritual Nurture - \$27,280.78**
- **Worship and Music - \$27,170.10**
- **Church-College Relations - \$25,454.68**
- **Steven Williams - \$192,293.50**

The endowment funds provide a valuable supplement to your annual giving. The **earnings of the Williams Endowment** provide annual support for **organ maintenance and the music program**, and the **earnings of the remaining endowment accounts** provide an important source of funds for **unexpected or nonrecurring expenses that are not included in the budget**. They also provide important protection if the church ever experiences an unexpected shortfall in revenue. In 2025 endowment earnings were used to help pay for **new large format monitors for the Adult Education and Youth rooms, re-staining the Chapel exterior, funding a washer and dryer for the Warren Wilson College tiny house project, funding participation in the Triennium conference by WWPC youth, and organ maintenance**.

A group of knowledgeable volunteers oversees our endowment investments, led by **John Laney** as chair of the Funds Ministry Committee. **Elizabeth Cook** and **Elaine Barnes** are the other members of the committee.



Final Thoughts On Our Financial Picture

The 2025 financial results and our projections for 2026 are a reminder that there are (at least) two things that we should continue to be grateful for. First, **the generosity of this congregation has enabled us to remain in a position of financial strength** as we move forward in calling a new pastor. Second, the folks that give us the ability to monitor these results on a regular basis deserve a special word of thanks. A **dedicated group of individuals – Barbara Escalante, our bookkeeper; Leslie Sayyar, our disbursing treasurer; Brent Roberts, receiving treasurer; and John Laney, chair of the Funds Ministry Committee** – do an immense amount of work to provide the Administration Ministry Team and the Session with accurate and timely reports throughout the year. Their efforts make it possible for those groups to keep track of and manage the church's finances throughout the year.

100 Years of Service ...



Warren Wilson
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The FUTURE is Calling!

January 2, 2026

Members and friends of Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church,

Once again, your generosity has exceeded our expectations! The commitments we have received for 2026 now total \$242,750, an increase of more than \$30,000 from 2025 and nearly \$19,000 higher than we projected in our 2026 Challenge Budget. Thank all of you for what you do for the ministry of our congregation!

What has your extraordinary support made possible? First, it ensures that we will begin the journey with our new pastor in a strong financial position. Second, it allows the Session to modestly increase the proposed salary increase for staff members. Third, it enables the budget team to recommend an increase of \$1750 to our Community Engagement budget, nearly tripling the increase in our giving to others. Fourth, the budget now funds the proposal for a part-time associate for nine months entirely from recurring revenue. Moreover, it gives us all a renewed hope that 2026 will continue our long history of service in the Swannanoa Valley and beyond.

If you have yet made a commitment for 2026 and want to do so, you can complete both the financial and the time and talent portions of the [2026 WWPC Commitment Form](#). You may mail or deliver the form to the church. You may also make your commitment on-line on the church website (warrenwilsonchurch.org), or you may email your wishes directly to Brent Roberts at brentbroberts@icloud.com.

We are extremely grateful for all you have done to support Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church. Your generous commitments mark a fitting end to 100 years of service and a wonderful beginning for the future that is calling.

Yours in Christ,

The 2026 Stewardship Team: Pat Hardy,
Jack Allison, Vicki Collins, Pat Levi, Sharon Lytle,
Ken Murchison, Laurie Furr-Vancini



101 Chapel Lane
Swannanoa, NC 28778
(828) 298-9092
www.warrenwilsonchurch.org



Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church - Ministry Teams - 2026

Administration Ministry Team

Jim Storey, chair & session liaison; Leslie Sayyar, treasurer; Brent Roberts, receiving treasurer; Bob Gambrell, Kay Stockdale, Sally Broughton, Ken Murchison, Derron Daugherty, Jackie Wintle, Barbara Escalante, bookkeeper.

Staff: Laurie Furr-Vancini

Funds Ministry Team

John Laney, Leslie Sayyar, Pat Wilson, Elizabeth Cook and Elaine Barnes

Staff: Barbara Escalante

Church College Relations Team

Congregants: Don Collins, Leslie Sayyar – co-chairs; Chrisann Ohler, Kay Stockdale, Tacci Smith, Christine Nugent;

College representatives: Rev. Shannon Spencer – WWC Chaplain, Mac, Maeve, Milly, Rachel, Alex Collins, Andrew

Staff: Laurie Furr-Vancini

Communications Ministry Team

Brent Roberts, chair; John Bishop, Janice Collins, Derron & Susan Daugherty, Sally Broughton, session liaison.

Staff: Andrew Tripp, church administrator; Laurie Furr-Vancini, minister.

Community Engagement Team

Ken Murchison, chair; Jack Alison, session liaison; Bob & Corise Gambrell, Larry Griswold, Vicki Collins, Alisa White, Mary Wheeler,

Sally Broughton, Ann & Jamie Dale

Staff: Laurie Furr-Vancini, minister

Circle of Welcome – Afghan Refugee support team

Vicki Collins, Jamie Dale, Joy Inabinette, Chrisann Ohler, Bekah Thapa

Congregational Life

Susan Daugherty, chair; Sharon Lytle, Sarah Anne Eller, Mary Craig, Donna Eagle Joslin, Pat Levi, Vicki Collins

Staff: Pastor – Laurie Furr-Vancini

Spiritual Nurture Team

Beth Meriwether, Natalie Daugherty, Paulette Heck, Winn Legerton

Staff: Laurie Furr-Vancini

Worship & Music

Chrisann Ohler (Chair & session liaison), Janice Collins, Derron Daugherty

Staff: Laurie Furr-Vancini, Ted Stewart, Andrew Tripp

Cemetery Trustees

John Laney, Todney Lytle, Diana and Bill Sanderson

Warren Wilson College (unofficial rep): Jeff Keith

Choir

Tom Eller, Brent Roberts, Jamie Dale, Rodney Lytle, Jack Alison, Alisa White, Sue Wilson, Ann Dale, Beth Meriwether, Natalie

Daugherty, Kathy Jacobs, Rachael Sparling, Sally Broughton

Staff: Ted Stewart, Director of Music

Bell Choir

Natalie Daugherty, director; Derron Daugherty, Susan Daugherty, Jim Storey, Cadence Cowal, Beth Meriwether, Catherine Showalter,

Kathy Jacobs, Lauren Holding, Eloise

2025 Pastor Nominating Committee

Brent Roberts, Elizabeth Cook, Rodney Lytle, Natalie Daugherty, Chrisann Ohler

2025 Action Teams (subcommittees of AMT, authorized by session)

Budget Team

Leslie Sayyar, Chrisann Ohler, Brent Roberts, Jim Storey, and Ken Murchison. Ken is the AMT liaison to Budget and Stewardship.

Audit Team

Tom Eller, Pat Wilson, Jim Storey, and Ken Murchison audited our 2024 financial reports.

Personnel Review Team

Barbara Griswold, Brent Roberts, and Jim Storey

2025 & 2026 Action Teams

Nominating Committee

Session members: Natalie Daugherty & Jack Allison; Rodney Lytle, Barbara Griswold, Elaine Barnes

Staff: Minister – ex officio

Stewardship Team

Rev. Pat Hardy, chair; Vicki Collins, Jack Allison, Sharon Lytle, Ken Murchison, Pat Levi

Staff: Minister

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

Calendar of Events 2025

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| April 16 | Holy Week Worship at Black Mountain UMC |
| April 16 | Church Cemetery Walk |
| April 17 | Maundy Thursday Service |
| April 18 | Good Friday at Montreat Presbyterian |
| April 27 | Congregational Meeting |
| April 27 | Confirmation Class Begins |
| April 20 | Easter Brunch |
| May 4 | Ice Cream Social & Send Off for Work Crew Member, Olivia Crescitelli |
| June 8 | Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday |
| N/A | Wonderful Wednesdays (had to be canceled due to scheduling conflict for space) |
| June 15 | Dewitt Tipton, Guest Musician |
| June 22 | Moment for Mission - Rev. Wilson Kennedy, PCUSA Sunday |
| July 6 | July 4th Potluck Picnic |
| June 29 and July 6 | Guest Pastor - Rev. Dr. Lewis F. Galloway |
| June 29 - August 2 | Swannanoa Gathering |
| July 7 & 19 | Movie Nights |
| July 12 - August 2 | Chamber Music Society of the Carolinas (Saturdays) |
| July 27 | Guest Musician - Wayne Smith |
| August 31 | Koegel Peace Garden Dedication |
| September 7 | Student Led Service |
| September 7 | Welcome Back Student Potluck |
| September 7 | Spiritual Nurture Classes Resume |
| September 9 | Togather Group Resumes |
| September 11 | Bone Marrow Drive |
| September 14 | Choir Resumes |
| September 21 | Moment for Mission - Cadence Cowal, Triennium |
| September 26 | Community Remembrance, Hurricane - Conscious Center for Living & Dying |
| September 27 | Blue Ridge Orchestra "Post-Helene: Remembering, Rebuilding, Reimagining" |
| October 1 | Blessing of the Animals |
| October 5 | World Communion Sunday J. Dale, host pastor |
| October 19 | College Homecoming Service & Potluck |
| October 24 - 26 | Asheville Piano Forum fall benefit concert |
| November 2 | Katy Schafer, Speaking on LGBTQIA inclusivity |
| November 9 | Trunk or Treat |
| November 16 | Centennial Celebration Concert |
| November 19 | Stewardship Sunday |
| November 23 | Empty Bowls Supper |
| October - November | Celebration of the history of the church |
| November 23 | Centennial Celebration |
| November 23 | Annual Harvest/Thanksgiving farm display |
| November 23 | 100th Anniversary Celebration |
| November 27 | Thanksgiving Dinner |
| November 30 | Guest Pastor - Cindy Riley |
| December 5 | Hanging of the Greens/Pizza lunch |
| December 7 | Blue Ridge Orchestra |
| December 7 | Cookies & Carols |
| December 14 | Ordination & Installation of Officers |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service |
| December 28 | Guest Pastor - Pat Hardy |

2026 Final Budget

| Line | | 2024 Budget | 2025 Budget | 2026 Challenge | 2026 Budget |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| I N C O M E | | | | | |
| 1 | C O M M I T M E N T S | \$212,144 | \$211,456 | \$224,000 | \$242,750 |
| 2 | REGULAR INCOME | \$14,000 | \$18,000 | \$21,000 | \$18,000 |
| 3 | LOOSE PLATE | \$3,500 | \$5,000 | \$5,500 | \$5,000 |
| 4 | GIVING INCOME | \$229,644 | \$234,456 | \$250,500 | \$265,750 |
| 5 | GIFTS/GRANTS | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 6 | PRESBYTERY COLLEGE | \$1,000 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| 6a | INTEREST PRIOR | \$0 | \$2,100 | \$3,300 | \$3,000 |
| | YEAR SURPLUS WMS | \$0 | \$2,400 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 7 | END EARNINGS TRX - | \$3,900 | \$3,900 | \$3,900 | \$3,900 |
| 8 | MEMORIALS FD TRX – | \$0 | \$2,224 | \$14,193 | \$0 |
| 9 | PERSONNEL FD | \$12,000 | \$19,500 | \$0 | \$19,000 |
| 10 | TOTAL INCOME | \$246,544 | \$265,580 | \$272,893 | \$292,650 |
| EXPENSES | | | | | |
| 11 | P R O G R A M | \$9,690 | \$10,810 | \$11,535 | \$12,385 |
| 12 | SPIRITUAL NURTURE | \$1,600 | \$1,650 | \$2,650 | \$2,700 |
| 13 | Ch/YouthEd | \$1,150 | \$1,200 | \$1,200 | \$1,250 |
| 14 | AdultEd | \$450 | \$450 | \$450 | \$450 |
| 14a | Speakers,Retreats, Trainin | \$0 | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| 15 | COMMUNICATIONS | \$1,290 | \$1,325 | \$1,400 | \$1,400 |
| 16 | WORSHIP & MUSIC | \$4,850 | \$5,735 | \$5,285 | \$5,885 |
| 17 | WorshipSupplies | \$1,000 | \$1,050 | \$1,050 | \$1,100 |
| 18 | MusicLicense | \$500 | \$500 | \$500 | \$550 |
| 19 | ChoirMusic & Supplies | \$1,250 | \$1,250 | \$800 | \$1,000 |
| 20 | Instrument Maint | \$2,100 | \$2,350 | \$2,350 | \$2,650 |
| 21 | MusicEducation | \$0 | \$585 | \$585 | \$585 |
| 22 | CONGREGATIONAL LIFE | \$950 | \$1,050 | \$1,100 | \$1,300 |
| 22a | Congregational Events | \$950 | \$1,050 | \$1,100 | \$1,000 |
| 22b | KitchenSupplies | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$300 |
| 23 | C O L L E G E R E L A T I O N S | \$1,000 | \$1,050 | \$1,100 | \$1,100 |
| 24 | COM M U N I T Y E N G A G E M E N T | \$19,350 | \$20,350 | \$21,350 | \$23,100 |
| 25 | PCUSA | \$7,100 | \$7,600 | \$8,100 | \$8,600 |
| 26 | LOCAL MISSION | \$12,250 | \$12,750 | \$13,250 | \$14,500 |

2026 Final Budget

| Line | | 2024 Final | 2025 Final | 2026 Challenge | 2026 Budget |
|------|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|-------------|
| 27 | P ERSONNEL | \$190,869 | \$206,327 | \$210,689 | \$225,866 |
| 28 | STAFF RAISE POOL | \$0 | \$0 | \$3,246 | \$0 |
| 2 | P A STOR | \$90,238 | \$97,662 | \$105,633 | \$102,384 |
| 9 | SEARCH EXPENSES | \$12,000 | \$19,500 | \$0 | \$19,000 |
| 31 | CHURCH ADM | \$48,089 | \$46,631 | \$46,631 | \$50,189 |
| 32 | MUSIC DIRECTOR | \$24,000 | \$24,906 | \$24,906 | \$25,901 |
| 33 | ASSOC IN MINISTRY | \$0 | \$4,448 | \$17,793 | \$13,880 |
| 3 | SUB ORGANIST | \$900 | \$900 | \$900 | \$900 |
| 4 | SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS | \$4,290 | \$0 | \$0 | \$1,000 |
| 3 | PULPIT SUPPLY | \$2,400 | \$3,000 | \$2,000 | \$2,750 |
| 3 | GUEST MUSICIANS | \$250 | \$300 | \$300 | \$350 |
| 3 | CONTRACT SERVICES | \$7,622 | \$7,980 | \$8,280 | \$8,322 |
| 6 | SOUND TECHNICIAN | \$1,080 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 | \$1,190 |
| 40 | GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION | \$26,635 | \$28,093 | \$29,319 | \$31,299 |
| 41 | OFFICE SUPPLIES | \$1,275 | \$1,400 | \$1,600 | \$1,600 |
| 42 | OFFICE COMM | \$1,000 | \$780 | \$660 | \$720 |
| 43 | P OSTA G E/ P RI NTI NG | \$1,500 | \$1,680 | \$1,300 | \$1,700 |
| 44 | OFFICE SOFTWARE | \$2,350 | \$2,510 | \$3,300 | \$3,300 |
| 45 | EQUIP PUR/SERVICE | \$2,700 | \$2,400 | \$2,400 | \$2,400 |
| 46 | CREW MISC EXPENSE | \$75 | \$75 | \$75 | \$80 |
| 47 | SESSION EXPENSE | \$543 | \$578 | \$579 | \$594 |
| 47a | STEWARDSHIP EXPENSE | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$500 |
| 48 | I NSURA NC E | \$2,700 | \$3,100 | \$4,000 | \$4,000 |
| 49 | ST TR/CREDIT CD FEES | \$200 | \$100 | \$75 | \$75 |
| 50 | UTI L I TI ES | \$7,600 | \$8,500 | \$8,500 | \$9,000 |
| 51 | ONLINE GIVING CH | \$150 | \$290 | \$400 | \$450 |
| 52 | BUILD MAINTENANCE | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$1,750 | \$2,000 |
| 53 | BUILD CLEANING | \$4,542 | \$4,680 | \$4,680 | \$4,880 |
| 54 | TOTAL EXPENSES | \$246,544 | \$265,580 | \$272,893 | \$292,650 |
| 55 | INCOME MINUS EXPENSES | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |